

Welcome to our third 'Safeguarding newsletter' of the school year. At Red Oaks, we are committed to ensuring a culture of safeguarding in our school and it is paramount in all we do. We hope that our termly safeguarding newsletters will give you an overview of our approach, offer some useful guidance and information and inform you of what your children are learning in school about how to keep themselves safe. For more information about safeguarding, please look at our website:

https://www.redoaks.org/celebrating_children_Staying_Safe_Intro.php

Children's Mental Health Week

Monday 6th February marks the start of Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is 'Let's Connect' and will encourage children (and adults) to look at how we can make meaningful connections with each other.

Connection is vital for our wellbeing and our survival. Healthy connections between family, friends and others can support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing. When our need for rewarding social connections is not met, we can sometimes feel isolated and lonely, which can have a negative impact on our mental health.

During this week, the children will learn about the different connections they have with people, ranging from family members to classmates to other members of the wider community. The activities they take part in will help them to see the power of meaningful connections. They may even discover connections they have that they didn't know about previously!

For more information about Children's Mental Health Week, please click [here](#).



Contact details – always keep us up to date!

It is vitally important that we have the correct contact details for every parent/carer. If you change your phone number, email or move house, please let the school office know. We also need at least two emergency contacts for your child.

Telephone – 01793 493920

Email – admin@redoaks.org.uk

Useful contacts:

Swindon MASH (Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub) if you have concerns about a child and want to speak to a social worker - 01793 466903 or email swindonmash@swindon.gov.uk

If you have concerns that a child is at immediate risk of harm, please call the Police on 999

School Nursing Team – for support to help children with their physical, mental and emotional well-being and referring to other specialist agencies.

Tel – 01793 465050 or email snn@swindon.gov.uk

Online safety guidance for parents - <https://swgfl.org.uk/>

Safety Advice from THINK!

Although longer days and lighter evenings are on the horizon, January and February mornings and late afternoons are still very dark.

The Department for Transport’s THINK! road safety campaign reminds children of some top tips to help them be seen when out and about on the roads.

THINK!’s top tips for making sure children are visible when out on the roads are:





Wear brightly coloured or fluorescent clothing which shows up well in daylight and at dusk

If you’re out and about when it’s dark, wear reflective gear to make sure you can be seen in car headlights - reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well. Remember, fluorescent clothing doesn’t work after dark

Use accessories - even small items such as clip-on reflectors, fluorescent arm bands and stickers on your school bag are a great way to improve your visibility



Our Safeguarding Team:

			
Becky Taylor Designated Safeguarding Lead	Emily Maxfield Deputy Safeguarding Lead	James Lee Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Caroline Henham Link LAB Member for Safeguarding

If you have a concern about the safety or well-being of a child, please speak to one of our Safeguarding Team.